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MAILED

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 5,855,666
Issue Date: January 5, 1999
Application No. 08/773,677
Filed: December 24, 1996
Attorney Docket No. 66263

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ON PETITION

This is a decision in response to a renewed petition filed May 12, 2011, under 37 CFR 1.378(c), to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired on January 6, 2011, for failure to pay the 11 ½ year maintenance fee including the late surcharge fee. The renewed petition filed herein satisfies the requirement of 37 CFR 1.378(d). Since the petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

Accordingly, the maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that the delay in paying the maintenance fee under 37 CFR 1.378(c) was intentional, petitioner must notify the Office.

A courtesy copy of this decision is being mailed to the address given on the petition; however, the Office will mail all future correspondence solely to the address of record.

Petitioner should note that the reconsideration fee of \$400 will be charged to the deposit account as authorized.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to undersigned at (571) 272-6059.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Alicia Kelley-Collier".

Alicia Kelley-Collier
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: WALTER ALLEN HENDRICKS
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